

fixed cam and connecting portion of the first cam portion with the second cam portion is mounted in the depth of the case body, and not located on the joint portion of each one of the mounting portions of the first member and the second member. In contrast, Ona teaches a hinge device “comprising: a first cam fixed to the first member; a second cam fixed to the second member; a shaft means coaxially supporting the first cam and the second cam so that they can relatively rotate” (Ona, col. 3, ll. 24-28). Accordingly, the cams in Ona provide connection contacts to each of the rotating members, whereas the cams in Applicant’s invention do not. Therefore, the orientation of the components of the claimed invention would not have been an obvious design choice for one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention.

Further, Applicant submits that washers 2808 and 2810 as disclosed by Mischenko are described as “friction washers” (Mischenko, column 4, lines 14-28) and not slider washers as recited in the claims. Applicant submits that a friction washer is clearly different from a slider washer in its function, and thus the combination of Mischenko and Ona does not teach or suggest every aspect of the claimed invention.

For the aforementioned reasons, the combination of Ona and Mischenko does not teach or suggest every aspect or feature of the claimed invention. Claims 8-11 are dependent from independent claim 7, and claims 13-16 are dependent from independent claim 12 and are therefore patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 7 and 12.

Based on the foregoing, the rejection of claims 7-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) should be withdrawn, and reconsideration is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Each and every point raised in the Office Action dated June 30, 2005 has been addressed on the basis of the above amendments and remarks. In view of the foregoing it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance and it is respectfully requested that the application be reconsidered and that all pending claims be allowed and the case passed to issue.

If there are any other issues remaining which the Examiner believes could be resolved through a Supplemental Response or an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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